Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals Upon the Most Important Topics of the Hour.

COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR EVENING TELEGRAPH.

A Blunder in Mexico.

From the Tribune. We are known not to take any large amount of stock either in "the Monroe Doctrine" or in that of "Manifest Destiny." We favor all the modern improvements, but cannot realize that there has been any decided advance in our foreign policy since its general principles were enunciated in Washington's Farewell Address. In short, we believe that, as a general rule, our Government should mind its own business and let that of other Governments alone. Such we understand to be the essence of the Washington doctrine, which we consider decidedly prefer able to that properly known as the Monroe.

As to the Empire of Maximilian, we consider it a very great and costly blunder on the part of Napoleon III; but we do not think our Government should intermeddle with it. If France can afford to turnish the thirty to forty millions per annum required to keep it on its legs, we see not why this country should interfere. Mexico needs railroads, and all manner of industrial machinery; she needs security for property; she needs immunity from incessant revolutions, forced losns, guerrilla outrages, highway rob-bery, dense ignorance, degrading superstition, and all that have conspired to make her what John Randolph called her, "A blanketed nation of thieves and harlots." And if Louis Napoleon can constrain France (sorely against her will) to pay the heavy cost of the process—which cannot be less than one billion of francs—we cannot advise that he be interrupted in so doing.

If our Government should intermeddle with this matter, and succeed in driving out Maximilian, the civilized world would inevitably say "You have expelled a Government which gave promise of peace, unity, authority, vigar, security, industry: how do you propose to replace it? If you intend that Mexico shall retrograde to her endless cycles of pronunciamentos, revolutions, and military dictatorships, we protest. You have no right thus to injure the commerce, the industry of the civilized world. If you destroy the only Government that gave hope of stability and progress, you are bound to replace it by a better." And, as we do not want Mexico—are in no condition to spend thirty or forty millions per annum upon it—are utterly opposed to swallowing more than our digestive organs can dispose of—we insist that our Government shall let Mexico alone, and let France spend all the money there that her ruler can constrain his reluctant legislature to vote. When France vetoes this, her troops will be withdrawn; and then the Empire must take its chance. If it shall meantime have proved a general blessing, it will endure; if not, it will speedily pass away, as it should.

Hence, we deeply regret the decree of Maximilian, published in our last, authorizing "the Asiatic Company of Colonization." It is based on the identical blunder that cursed America with negro slavery—the same that misled Rob Roy into winning the beef required by his bare-legged tollowers by harrying the Scotch lowlands instead of buying it in the Glasgow mar-ket. There is a factitious, immediate conve-nience in all these mistakes; but their ultimate retribution is fearful.

Mexico has to-day about seven millions of people, whereof at least six millions must work for a living or steal it. Her urgent need to-day is such an organization of labor as shall proffer work and fair recompense to every Mexican—shall make it easy and honorable to live and thrive by honest, useful work, difficult and dis-graceful to live otherwise. But this proposed importation of Asiatic "Coolies" is a long, a istal stride in the wrong direction. It is systematic renunciation of the hope that Mexicans can be induced to work. It is a virtual con-demnation of the masses to die out, and be replaced by Asiatic pagans at least as vicous and degraded, though not so indolent and ineffec-tive, as the lowest of the Aztecs. We trust Maximilian—who seems to be enlightened and hu-mane—will yet be induced to recall this tatal

The Connecticut Election-A Hint to the Pennsylvania Democracy.

From the Herald.

In the late Connecticut election the Republicans have had a narrow escape from a disastrous defeat. They have been saved by their candidate for Governor, one of the most meritorious Union volunteer soldiers, and by the popular odium which still attaches to the Democratic party from its Rebel and Copperhead peace affiliations during the war. The Rebellion has been suppressed, peace is restored, the new issues of a reconstruction of the Union on the basis of the abolition of slavery and the supremacy of the national Government are upon us, but still the all-absorbing issue of the war marks the dividing line between the two political parties of the North.

That great body of the people devoted to the war for the Union, after all their sacrifices of blood and treasure to save the life of the nation, cannot at once accept in confidence the new protessions of a party identified with all the obnoxious Northern peace movements and cembinations and conspiracies of our sanguinary sectional struggle, though now among the things of the past. It takes time for the public mind throughout the country to accommodate itself to the new condition of things. The em-biftered party feelings of a bloody civil war do not always disappear with the generation living at the time of a treaty of peace. The old dederal peace party of 1812 never recovered from its opposition to that war, but gradually went the way of dissolution, and for a generation after it was buried it was a stigma man to be proclaimed as a relic of the Hartford Convention. The same popular odium attaches to the party of the Chicago Democratic Convention, which, with Grant investing Richmond, and with Sherman at Atlanta, pronounced the war for the Union a failure. Against this ob-noxious record the Northern Democratic party has still to contend, because the new issues o peace and reumon baye not yet obliterated the deeply marked dividing party lines of the war.

But the Connecticut election shows that a reaction in the public mind from those old issues the past to the living questions of the day has commenced. Last year the Democratic candidate for Governor, a peace Copperhead, was defeated in Connecticut by a majority against him of eleven thousand. This year the Democratic candidate in that State, with the antecedents of a conservative Union war man, including his support in Congress of the constitutional amendment abolishing slavery, and standing without a reservation in support of President Johnson's Union measures, comes within a few hundred votes of an election, notwithstanding the odious Copperhead affiliations of the Democratic party. We see in this result the popularity of President Johnson's policy and the wisdom of the Democracy in utterly repudiating their Copperhead leaders and herestes which, since 1862, had resulted in nothing but disasters to their party from Maine to California.

California.

Here is a hint which ought not to be lost upon the Democracy of Pennsylvania. They have set up as their candidate for Governor in their next October pissuon a Mr. Heister Clymer against a leading Union general, last from Sherman's army. And who is this Mr. Clymer? A politician of Berks county, only distinguished in the late struggle of life or death with the Rebellion as a Connectical of the humanitarian school of as a Copperhead of the humanitarian school of Vallandigham. This is just as Forney, the "dead Vallandigham. This is just as Forney, the dead duck" of Washington, would have the battle shaped in Pennsylvania. It could not be better adapted to his game of an election of Forney to the United States Senate. Heister Clymer, in fact, though he may suit such old party fossils

as Buchanan and Black, is a great mistake. But he is a mistake which may be readily repaired. Let the Penusylvania Democracy meet in snother State Convention, and, setting aside Clymer, let them put up a thorouga-going Johnson Union man, through the war and since the peace—such a man, for instance, as Senator Cowan, and they cannot tall to resolutionize Cowan—and they cannot fall to revolutionize the old Keystone State in October.

The Connecticut election marks the beginning of the turn in the popular tide. By October next it will come in like the mighty volume of the Bay of Fundy, if the Democrats meantime will only remove from the channel all the Copperhead rubbish that blocks it up. In a word, the old Democratic party of the Chicago Convention ought to be abolished and disbanded, for then its elements, rallying around the Ad ministration, under a new name, new princi-ples, and new leaders, may sweep the country, North and South, in the great battle against the radicals for the Presidential succession.

The President's Victory.

From the Daily News, The President's Proclamation is particularly significant when viewed in connection with the revolutionary attitude of the Congressional majority. These factionists maintain that the States lately in rebellion are still in insurrection, and that this fact deprives these States of the right of representation in Congress. By his Proclamation, the President solemply declares that "the insurrection which heretofore existed in the States of Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessce, Louisiana, Ar-kansas, Mississippi, and Florida is at an end, and is honceforth to be so regarded." We are of those who believe that the solemn proclamation of this fact by the President establishes its logal existence, and that it cannot be henceforth questioned by any except those who are intent pon subverting the Government.

That these will question it there can be no oubt. They will stop at no intaction of the Constitution, at no wrong, at no outrage in the prosecution of their purpose to obtain and keep possession of the Government, by disentranchis-ing the white and enfranchising the blacks of the Southern States. This purpose they can only accomplish by passing their infamous measures over the President's votoes; and this they cannot do, if any one of the enumerated States be accorded the right of representation in Congress. The Stevens and Sumner faction will, therefore, in all probability insist, as they have heretofore done, that it is for the Congress, and not the President, to determine when "the insurrection is at an end;" and treating his Proclamation as a nullity, will persist in excluding the Southern Senators and Representatives from the seats which they are legally entitled to occupy. If they do this they must inevitably provoke a collision with the President, and test the sincerity of his declaration "that the insurrection is at an end, and is henceforth to be so regarded." We have no doubt that the Presi dent means exactly what he says, and that he inflexibly determined that the Congress shall recognize the fact that the States lately in inurrection are "constituent States of the United States, and as such must necessarily be, and by the Constitution and laws of the United States are, made equal, and placed on a like looting as to political rights, immunities. dignity, and power with the several States with which they are united."

If the Congress, under the malign influence of Stevens and Sumner, shall refuse to do this, and shall still exclude the representatives of those States, it will become the duty, as we believe it is the purpose, of the President to treat their acts as of no legal effect.

They may assume to pass the Civil Rights bill, or any other vile measure the Central Directory may concoct, over his veto. They cannot com-pel him to execute it. They may dare to prefer articles of impeachment against him. He can laugh them to scorn; and, strong in the justice of his cause, and in the confidence of the people, can defy their utmost malice, and will triumph over all their malignity.

The Proclamation and its Consequences.

From the Times . It is difficult to conceive of any rational and just ground upon which objection may be urged to the decisive step just taken by the President. In formally declaring the msurrection at an end, and proclaiming the reconstruction of the Southern States, and their title to the rights and immunities belonging to integral parts of the Union, he has simply exercised the authority belonging to his office under the Constitution. The question to be de-cided was one of fact and time, and the law and the Constitution have made him the sole responsible judge of both. His action in the premises is equally free from the opposite errors of precipitancy and procrastination has delayed it long enough to satisfy his own udgment and the judgment of the country, as to the accuracy of the representation upon which his decision depends for its justification. To have promulgated it much earlier, or in the absence of ample evidence as to the completeness of the work achieved by the war, and the sufficiency of the terms acknowledged by the rehabilitated States, would have been a blunder pregnant with the gravest consequences. the other hand, having become satisfied that the results aimed at in the prosecution of the war had been accomplished, and that the reorganization of the State Governments on a loyal basis, is complete, he could not have indefinitely de ferred the Proclamation without nullifying all that he has said and done since his advent to power, or without fomenting sectional discon-tent, and strengthening a policy which, un-checked, would have led to a disruption of the

The proclamation setting forth national peace and unity, the equality of all the States as mem-bers of the Union, the subordination of military to civil authority, and the restoration of the great guarantees of personal liberty, for a time-uspended to meet the exigencies of war, was essential—and essential now-to perfect the well considered policy to which the President is irrevocably committed. It is evidence that, come what may, he is resolved to give effect to the principles and conclusions by which his official course has been guided. It is a fulfilment of his pledge that in his path there shall be no going backwards—that every step he takes shall be a step forward—that all he has done shall be upheld, and all he has promised fulfilled, despite the maledictions of disunionists North or South.

North or South. The issuing of the proclamation at this mo ment is especially important, in view of the brief pause in the Congressional struggle, and the anxiety with which the country watches for its renewal in the Senate. The President nas now cleared the ground as thoroughly as possible. The manifold pleas for exceptional legislation, predicated upon the continuance of a state of war, and its alleged constitutionality under the war-making power, will be henceforth inadmissible. There will be no tenable pretense for talking or or dealing with the South as still in Rebellion; for the Presi-dent, in the exercise of an inconfestable authority, has declared the Rebellion ended. There can be no excuse for dictating terms to There can be no excuse for dictating terms to Southern States as conquered provinces, or imposing conditions upon their people as subjugated Rebels, at the mercy of the conqueror; for the Executive of the nation has proclaimed that the rights of States in the South are as valid as those of States in the North; that the civil authority of Georgia is as perfect in its sphere as that of Massachusetts, and that the Southern people are, as a whole, loyally intent upon doing their duty as citizens of the United States. There can no longer be a decent pretext for excluding Southern Representatives from Congress, or for enacting laws applying peculiarly to the Southern States, and nforcing provisions which their authors dare not attempt to enforce in their own States. To this extent, therefore, the proceeding of the President cannot fall to exercise a potent inau-ence upon the sayings and doings of Congress. It deprives the agitators and mischief-makers of their only apology, and blunts the weapon with which they have hitherto fought. They must either accept the fact promulgated by the Presi-

power withheld from them by the Constitution. Coming at such a time, and calculated to exercise such an influence, it were idle to assume that the Proclamation will please those whose averments it controverts, or be acceptable to those whose policy it effectually thwarts. We shall be agreeably surprised if it be not made the occasion of a tresh outpouring of wrath upon the President. The elaborate recital of facts with which the burden of the document is prefaced, was probably prepared in articipation of this contingency. Whatever his motive, the President has unquestionably added strength to his position by the array of proclamations issued by his predecessor, and resolutions adopted by Congress during the progress of the war. Unless thus fortified, his interpretation of the object of the war would have been open to controversy. Upon this point, now, there can be no cavil. Presi-dent Johnson produces and accepts the dicta of President Lincoln, which, again, were in entire barmony with the solemn declarations of Congress, supported and in at least one instance originated by the very members who now find it convenient to occupy diametrically opposite ground. They who now say that the war had other objects than the maintenance of the Union, whenever they assail the Proclamation will find themselves confronted with their own avowals, and the avowals of the then President, put for ward with their sanction. The Tribune pro-nounces this testimony superfluous. No doubt our contemporary and not a few others would prefer to have forgotten what so palpably con-victs them of inconsistency, not to say insin-cerity. But the country will think differently. And President Johnson, in thus appealing to the record in support of his own view, does much to counteract the malignity of those who may be expected to be its assallants.

Parliamentary Retorm - Negro Suffrage. From the World.

Which is the freest country, England or France? Every man of intelligence answers without hesitation, "England." England may, indeed, become a freer and better Government than she now is, by the extension of the suffrage proposed in the new reform bill; but she has long been the freest country in Europe, and, excepting the United States, the freest in the world. The amount of freedom enjoyed in any nation bears no necessary relation to the num ber of its voters. France needs no reform bill, in the sense in which that phrase is understood in England; France, in other words, is not capable of receiving any extension of the elective franchise. In France, suffrage is already universal. In England, the elective franchise attaches to a property qualification; the new reform bili merely proposes to reduce, not aboush, the qualification. In France, every male inhabitant of twenty-one years or upwards has the suffrage by reason of his birth in the country: while in England, even under the new reform bill, not one grown man in five will have the right to vote. It must, therefore, be admitted that freedom is not necessarily in pro-portion to the number of voters.

If the choice were given to a well-informed man whether he would prefer in the United States a centralized despotism, like the Government of France, with negro suffrage, or the free institutions of England with her restricted suffrage, he would decide for the free institu-tions. The actual question, in this country, lies between wider extremes. We have already universal white suffrage, as they have in France; and our actual Constitution is much freer than and our actual Constitution is much freer than that of England. But it is proposed, by the radicals, to acquire universal negro suffrage by a centralized despotism outrivalling that of Napoleon. For the French Government admits representatives into the legislative body from all parts of the Empire, while half of the territorial area of the United States is not represented in Congress. sented in Congress.

The Government of England is free, because the country is governed by its public opinion. The Government of France is not free, because public opinion does not, in that country, control governmental measures. The radical policy is producing a similar political condition here. Nobody entertains any coubt that a majority of the whole people included in the whole country, approve the reconstruction policy of the President. But the Government is so organized, by a disregard of the Constitution, that this aggregate public opinion does not find expression in Congress. In England, under similar circumstances, the Executive would dissolve the Parliament, and appeal to the people in a new election. In this country we must await the stated period of elections, which would be no evil if all the present Repre-sentatives were admitted to their lawful seats. the members of Parliament from the counties had excluded the members from the towns a dissolution would be no remedy, unless the towns were to be admitted after the new elec-tion. It a rump Parliament should pass laws giving the counties the control of the organization of the next Parliament, there could be no appeal to the country, but only to the represented part of it. But the exclusion of the towns would be a revolution—a virtual over-throw of the British Constitution. There is not a statesman or publicist in Europe but would so pronounce it. The exclusion, in this country, of eleven States from Congress, is equally revo-lutionary. The Constitution declares that each State shall have two Senators, and that no State shall, without its consent, be deprived of its equal representation in the Senate. It also declares that each State shall be represented in the lower branch of Congress in proportion to its population, as ascertained by the next preceding census. These provisions are virtually abrogated by the radical representatives from the Northern States. The consequence is, that Congress, instead of expressing the will of a majority of the people of the United States, represents an acknowledged minority. The radicals dare not admit the whole country to the representation which the Constitution gives it, knowing that they would thereby lose their

It is plain, therefore, that for the sake of out-stripping France in the matter of universal suftrage, the radicals are also outstripping her in despotism. Even under the despotism of Louis Napoleon every part of France is represented: but universal suffrage is far enough from pro ducing liberty.

The radicals are constantly clamoring that universal suffrage is necessary to complete en ancipation. But are there slaves in England? It is the boast of that country that slavery has not existed there for several hundred years Perfect freedom is therefore consistent with a denial of suffrage to considerable classes of the population. The free institutions of England are a better protection to its inhabitant than universal suffrage is to the inhabitants of France. The present movement in England for extending the suffrage by lowering the property qualification has an instructive side for this country in the demonstration it calls to mind, that personal ireedom may be fully enjoyed by ses who have no excess to the polling-booths It puts to shame the argument of the revolutionary radicals, that the negroes cannot be free without the elective franchise. If this pretense were well founded, four-diffus of the people of England would be slaves, even after the passage of the new reform bill.

-Dr. Reifferscheid, of Bonn, in his researches in the libraries of Italy for his new edition of the Latin Fathers, has made some discoveries of Anglo-Saxon and Gothic MSS. The Algemeine Zeitung (Bellage), of the 1st of March, states that in the Vatican Dr. Reifferscheid discovered, in a "Codex Rescriptus," eight leaves written in Anglo-Saxon. They contain fragments of King Alfred's version of "Orosii Historia adversus Paganos," which Bosworth has translated in accordance with the two MSS, that are still extant in England. Some fragments of the Gothic version of St. Paul's Epistles, by Ulphilas, have also been discavered by Dr. Reifferscheid, in an Ambrosian MS. (s. 36 sup.) in the Monastery of Bobbio. much yout. It makes being

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